

Message Text

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43

ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09 /142 W

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P R 091636Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8249

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2746

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: CURRENT STATUS AEGEAN CONTROVERSY

1. SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY BULLETIN APRIL 9
REPORTED THAT "CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS" HAS BEEN MADE
RELATIVE TO PRIOR MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF GREECE AND TURKEY TO
MOVE AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE THROUGH STAGE OF
BILATERAL TALKS AND ON TO INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ).
REPORT STATES THAT TALKS ARE ONGOING NOW AT AMBASSADORIAL
LEVEL WITH VIEW OF DETERMINING AND DEFINING THE SCOPE OF
THE DIFFERENCES WHICH FACE TWO COUNTRIES ON THIS ISSUE.
REPORT IDENTIFIES KEY FIGURES IN CURRENT TALKS AS GREEK
AMBASSADOR TO ANKARA KOSMADOPOULOS AND TURKISH AMBASSADOR
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TO ATHENS GURUN.

2. EMBOFF QUERIED DEPUTY DIRECTOR CYPRUS/TURKISH AFFAIRS, MFA, DIMITRI MACRIS, APRIL 9 AS TO AUTHENTICITY THIS REPORT. MACRIS STATED THAT NO REAL SIGNIFICANCE WHOULD BE ATTACHED TO REPORT AND THAT IN FACT WHATEVER CONVERSATIONS ARE BEING HELD NOW CONSTITUTE MERELY "REPETITIONS" OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID BEFORE. CLEAR INFERENCE FROM SUBSTANCE AND TONE OF MACRIS' REMARKS IS THAT NO REPEAT NO MENAINGFUL PROGRESS YET OCCURRED WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS PROGRESS IN EFFORT TO NUDGE CONTINENTAL SHELF CASE ALONG PATH TO FINAL HEARING IN ICJ FORUM.

3. REGARDING SEPARATE CONTROVERSY OVER TURKISH INCURSIONS INTO GREEK AIRSPACE OVER ISALNDS CHIOS, SAMOS AND LESVOS, MACRIS CONFIRMED THAT A TOTAL OF THREE LETTERS WERE TRANSMITTED TO SYG WALDHIEM BY GREECE'S PERMREP AT UN, MOST RECENT DATED APRIL 3. PRIOR TWO LETTERS DELIVERED SHORTLY AFTER FIRST TWOTURKISH INCURSIONS OF MARCH 20 AND MARCH 27. MOST RECENT LETTER RECEIVED PROMINENT TREATMENT IN GREEK PRESS APRIL 8. NEWSPAPERS' COVERAGE STRESSED PROTIONS INDICATING GOG BELEIF THAT INCIDENTS CONSTITUTE "SERIOUS AND DELIBERATE PROVOCATION" AND THAT "REPETITION SUCH INCIDENTS MIGHT LEAD TO DANGEROUS SITUATION." GOG IN LETTER CHARACTERIZED OVERALL SITUATION AS ONE "FRAUGHT WITH SERIOUS PERILS."
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